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REMARKS

In response to the Final Office Action mailed December 11, 2006 (hereinafter "Final Action"), claims 1, 3-5, 7-8 and 10 have been amended. Claims 12-13 have been newly added. Therefore, claims 1-8 and 10-13 are pending. Support for the instant amendments is provided throughout the as-filed specification. Thus, no new matter has been added. In view of the foregoing amendments and following comments, allowance of all the claims pending in the application is respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-8 and 10-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,427,073 to Kortesalmi *et al.* ("Kortesalmi"). [Office Action, pg. 2, ¶3]. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for *at least* the reason that a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

Amended independent claim 1 positively recites that, among other things, "the mobile station transmits a mobile equipment identity associated with the mobile station and at least one mobile subscriber identity." After receiving the mobile equipment identity and at least one mobile subscriber identity, the method of amended claim 1 checks "first whether there is a record in the database, which contains a mobile equipment identity corresponding to the mobile equipment identity transmitted by the mobile station, and if there is said record in the database, checking further in response to said record being found whether the record includes a mobile subscriber identity corresponding to the mobile subscriber identity transmitted by the mobile station, and, if there is no record in the database, producing at least a signal indicating that the mobile equipment identity is possibly a copied one."

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The mobile system recited in amended independent claim 7 positively recites, among other things, a first identify device configured to first check whether the database contains a record which contains a mobile equipment identity corresponding to the mobile equipment identity transmitted by the mobile station, a second identify device configured to further check, in response to said record being found by the first identify device, whether a mobile subscriber identity contained in said record corresponds to that transmitted by the mobile station, and an alert device configured in response to the second identify device to produce a signal indicating that the mobile equipment identity is possibly a copied one.

The device of a mobile system recited in amended independent claim 10 positively recites, among other things, an element for requesting at least one international mobile subscriber identity from a database on the basis of the international mobile equipment identity received from at least one mobile station, said database containing records, each record containing a mobile equipment identity associated with a mobile station and at least one mobile subscriber identity, wherein the mobile equipment identify associated with the mobile station is an registered in the mobile system, an identifier for checking, whether the international mobile subscriber identity corresponds to the international mobile subscriber identity first transmitted by the mobile station, and an alert element responsive to the identifier to produce, if the international mobile subscriber identity does not correspond to the international mobile subscriber identity transmitted by the mobile station, at least a signal indicating that the mobile equipment identity is possibly a copied one.

An exemplary embodiment of the claimed invention can be found in the specification, for example, paragraphs [0030] to [0038]. Based on these disclosed embodiments, it is clear that, after receiving a mobile equipment identity (MEI or IMEI) and at least one mobile

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subscriber identity (MSI or IMSI) from a mobile station (MS), the network first checks whether the MEI or IMEI has been registered in the network. If so, the network then checks whether the MSI or IMSI sent by the MS corresponds to MSI or IMSI associated with the registered MEI or IMEI stored in the database. When the MSI or IMSI sent by the MS is not identical to the stored MSI or IMSI, an alert signal will be sent to the network.

In dramatic contrast, the method and system of Kortesalmi checks the authentication of the MS in a substantially different manner. That is, in Kortesalmi's method, after a center MSC/VLR receives a subscriber identify IMSI and a mobile identity $IMEI_{MS}$ from a mobile station for an updating, an inquiry is sent to a home location register HLR by using the **IMSI** received to retrieve a **IMEI list** corresponding to the IMSI. The system *then* checks whether the $IMEI_{MS}$ sent by the MS is included in the IMEI list. (See col. 5, lines 64 to col. 6, lines 37 in connection with the description of Fig. 7.) Clearly, Kortesalmi fails to teach or suggest first checking the IMSI and then checking the IMEI, as recited in the claimed invention. In other words, Kortesalmi does not, in any way, suggest checking first whether there is a record in the database, which contains a mobile equipment identity corresponding to the mobile equipment identity transmitted by the mobile station. Nor does it suggest checking further, as to whether the record includes a mobile subscriber identity corresponding to the mobile subscriber identity transmitted by the mobile station. Finally, it does not suggest, if there is no record in the database, producing at least a signal indicating that the mobile equipment identity is possibly a copied one, as recited in amended claim 1 and similarly in amended claims 7 and 10.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Kortesalmi fails to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed invention. Furthermore, because Kortesalmi teaches specifically

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different procedures related to the authentication of a mobile station, it would not have been obvious for one skilled in the art to revise Kortesalmi's method and system to achieve the claimed invention. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended claims 1, 7, and 10 are patentable over Kortesalmi. Furthermore, at least due to their dependencies from patentable independent claims, claims 2-6, 8, and 11 are also patentable.

New claims 12-13 recite similar features as claim 1 and therefore are patentable for similar reasons as discussed above with respect to claim 1, and for the additional features recited therein.

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CONCLUSION

Having addressed each of the foregoing rejections, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Final Action and, as such, the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

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Respectfully submitted,

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